

Bi-Weekly IOOS® Z-GRAM - 12 Aug 2011

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The Z-Gram is an informal way of keeping you up-to-date on US IOOS® activities. Please advise of additional addressees, or if you are receiving and no longer want to receive. If you think others could benefit from the Z-Gram please pass it on. To see previous Z-Grams go the IOOS website and view under program updates.

IOOS® - A Partnership supporting Lives and Livelihoods

Governance and Management Subsystem:

- **FY11 Awards:** We are seeing movement as NOAA's Grants office is working very hard to complete awards across NOAA. Congrats to GLOS our first recipient. A number of the other awards have reached the final steps of having the data entered into the financial system that triggers the obligation and hence the email for the recipient to pick up the award. Regina and Carmen are monitoring all the awards closely so if there is a question/concern they are on top of it immediately.
- **CONGRATS to Dr. Hassan Moustahfid (US IOOS Program Office):** Hassan was awarded NOS Employee of the Year for his work on the IOOS Biological project and the partnership with the animal tracking community. When notified of the award, Hassan quickly responded with the following "I feel that this award belong to all IOOS team and to talented people that I am working with in IOOS Biological Observations Project and IOOS Animal Telemetry Observations Project." A well deserved honor for Hassan's leadership, and sincere recognition by Hassan that US IOOS is built on a premise of partnerships and everyone working to the same goals of making all ocean, coastal and Great Lakes observations and information easy to access in usable formats that make a difference in the decisions we make.

Observation Subsystem:

- **High Frequency Radar/Radio (HFR):** For more information contact Jack Harlan, Jack.Harlan@noaa.gov - the US IOOS HFR Program Manager
 - **HF-radar area observations of the Japan tsunami signal:** An historic new peer-reviewed journal article by CeNCOOS HF radar partners (San Francisco State University (SFSU) and UC-Davis-Bodega Marine Laboratory led by industry partner Codar Ocean Sensors, Ltd.) and Japanese researchers shows the detection of the March 11, 2011 tsunami in post-processed HF radar data. The results were derived from five radars in Japan and California. For the complete article, go to: <http://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/3/8/1663/pdf>
- **IOOS Non-Federal Observing Asset Inventory Status:** Seven of 12 summaries (11 IOOS Regions and ACT) have been completed. 5 summaries (SECOORA, AOOS, GCOOS, NERACOOS, ACT) are in progress, Rob is in contact with each. Completion of phase 1a is slated for 30 August.
- **New Water Level Stations Installed for Storm Surge Monitoring Network in Alabama:** In July, the first three water level stations in the Mobile Bay Storm Surge Monitoring Network were completed in Mobile County, AL. This accomplishment

involved NOAA/National Ocean Service- Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services' (CO-OPS) first operational installation of microwave radar water level sensors. CO-OPS has invested significant effort over the last three years on test and evaluate this new technology. The main objective of the project is to install a state-of-the-art water level network, consisting of five new strategically located stations to provide real-time storm surge data to Mobile County's emergency managers, weather forecast office, and others. The goal is to provide better spatial coverage of water level observations throughout Alabama's complicated and flood prone coasts.

Data Management and Communications (DMAC) Subsystem: To get on the IOOS System Status list which announces service changes, please contact Derrick (Derrick.Snowden@noaa.gov) or Rob (Rob.Ragsdale@noaa.gov).

- **Regional Priority Activities:**
 - **SOS Reference Implementation Working Group:** This group is being led by Derrick (US IOOS Program Office) with the regions to develop a reference response as part of a SOS reference implementation document. This is being coordinated by the IOOS DMAC POC so please see them if you have questions on this topic.
- **PacIOOS in Action:** Satellite Data Overlays now in PacIOOS Map Viewer: Daily information, as well as multi-day composite images and historical archives can be selected. Currently, recent and historical data from ASCAT, AVHRR, GOES, Jason-1, MODIS Aqua, QuickSCAT, and SeaWiFS are available. Monk Seal Tracks are also available. In partnership with NOAA, the Monk Seal Research Program and PacIOOS has made select tracks of information on monk seals in the Hawaiian Islands available. The monk seal location data are the first wildlife data to be integrated in PacIOOS, with many more tracks of tuna, turtles, and sharks across the region to be available in the very near future. You can plot monk seal locations, animate movement patterns, and explore how seal movement ties in to the physical environment. Check it out: <http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/hioos/map/>.
- **GLOS in Action:** Great Lakes Observing System Launches New Website – www.GLOS.us **New GLOS Website Offers Data Users Improved Access to Great Lakes Data, Tools and Information.** Developed for Great Lakes data users, the new website provides improved access to Great Lakes data, products and tools and the latest GLOS projects. The website features a new design, product launch pages, relevant news and events, access to the Lake Views newsletter, and more information about GLOS projects and recent activities throughout the Great Lakes. Data users can more easily find real-time and historic Great Lakes data and access tools that process data in a meaningful way for Great Lakes decision-makers.

Modeling and Analysis Subsystem: No update

Interagency Project Collaboration: The Z-Grams are certainly focused on providing information on IOOS® connections to these projects and it is not intended to provide programmatic updates of these specific projects because they all have project leads.

- **DMAC Steering Team:** No update
- **IOOS and Links to the National Water Quality Monitoring Network: Coordination with EPA:** No update
- **IOOS and The National Science Foundation (NSF) - Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI):** Progress on a universal data model: The team discussed emerging progress towards a potential universal data model (in collaboration with Unidata, ASA, USGS and others) that could greatly simplify access to a wide range of observation and model output data.

Other:

- **Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, Assistant Secretary Environmental Observations and Predictions/Deputy Administrator NOAA visits Rutgers University; MARACOOS; NERACOOS and SECOORA:** Thank you to our hosts at Rutgers University for a wonderful and productive visit. The day began with a tour of the labs located in the Institute of Marine and Coastal Science (IMCS). In the Glider Lab Dr. Sullivan had the opportunity to see several Teledyne Webb Research Slocum gliders, including RU15 which took part in the first long-duration flight, from New Jersey to Halifax. Other gliders at various stages of assembly were also on display. Professor Scott Glenn led the way through the "Hall of Science" which featured posters on ocean observatories, as well as science results and educational opportunities enabled by ocean observatories. The International Coastal Ocean Observing lab (more popularly known as the I-COOL room) tour began with a short orientation of the room's capabilities which include: functioning as an observatory operations center, a data aggregation and visualization center, and a student training center. Dr. Sullivan interacted with students from both Rutgers and PLOCAN (Plataforma Oceánica de Canarias - Oceanic Platform of the Canary Islands) who are collaborating to complete the Challenger I mission. Dr. Sullivan also saw the integration of HF Radar and Satellite imagery and how it is being used to support a number of customers, including a demonstration this month for the utility of HF Radar to Maritime Domain Awareness. (for more information on the I-COOL room visit: <http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu>). From there, we headed to the Alampi Room to celebrate and commemorate Scarlet Knights' historic mission and watch the award winning documentary - *Atlantic Crossing - A Robot's Daring Mission*. The event included a presentation by Dr. Sullivan to Rutgers University President, Richard McCormick, and to Rutgers students, Nilsen Stradskov and Chantal Eyong who received NOAA challenger coins for their outstanding support to the mission and documentary respectively. The afternoon was spent in discussions with MARACOOS, NERACOOS and SECOORA. Each Region provided information about the area they represent, their capabilities and an overview of their benefits to US IOOS; this was followed by discussions led by users from the maritime transportation industry, offshore energy and fishing sectors. They expressed the obstacles they face in their sector, and their needs and support of US IOOS. The individuals in the room represented all of our IOOS sectors - industry, academia, federal agencies, state governments and stakeholders. We also discussed the interactions with other federal programs such as the DHS Port and Transportation Center of Excellence, US IOOS Program Office and EPA beach water quality project, and the strong interactions between US IOOS and NSF's OOI. The

presentations by the three Executive Directors are already posted -
<http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu/index.php/Presentations/>

- **Challenger Mission Phase One:** Follow along on the blog -<http://www.i-cool.org/?cat=77>. Silba continues to make its way through the field of warm and cold core eddies. Using both the HYCOM and ULGPC models to pick their path - Silba has had some "high speed – at least for a glider" runs 0.57 meters per second. The Glider, as of 11 Aug had been pummeled with the 20th storm in the 49 days since being deployed way back on June 23.
- **NANOOS In Action - Using IOOS data in classrooms:** NANOOS is excited to announce a contest for educators and teachers to create a classroom activity about ocean observing or using NANOOS data and tools. A \$100 thank-you stipend is available, and the contest ends October 15, 2011.
http://www.nanoos.org/documents/eo/NANOOS_Classroom_Activity_Contest.pdf

Congressional: No update

Communications/Outreach and Website Updates: No Update

IOOS Conference Involvement: This section will highlight those conferences where US IOOS is a sponsor/or has a major footprint.

- **MTS/IEEE Oceans 2011- Kona, Hawaii September 19-22, 2011:** So, I cannot list the wonderful talks that will feature US IOOS during these three days, because I am sure I will miss some, I will only feature our townhall and forum:
 - Tuesday 1:30-2:50: Partnerships to Integrate Ocean Observing to Address Customer Needs: This will feature speakers from US, Canada and Australia as we talk about an integrated observing partnership across the Pacific
 - Wednesday 0820-0940: Emerging Ocean Observing Technology Forum: This will be an interactive question/dialog with a panel from industry and US IOOS on the emerging/existing observing needs for the emerging technologies could meet. It will be open to **ALL** registrant and the goal is to foster closer relationships with the Industry sector of the US IOOS.

Upcoming Meetings: To see the IOOS calendar, please visit:
<http://www.usnra.org/calendar.html> or <http://ioos.gov/calendar/>.

Cheers,
Zdenka